



Paul Kehoe, T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

7th October 2022

PQ: 47098/22

To ask the Minister for Health if his Department will consider adding desmopressin nasal spray to the general medical services scheme given that the tablet version of the same medication is already covered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Paul Kehoe

Dear Deputy Kehoe,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 47098/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Desmopressin nasal spray (Desmospray) is on the formal GMS Reimbursement List, however it is currently in short supply. The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) who is responsible for co-ordinating the management of shortages of medicines on the Irish market have indicated that the expected return date is the end of 2023. This is due to a quality issue and affects other countries also.

There is a range of desmopressin sublingual tablets in various strengths on the Reimbursement List (Desmotabs, Noqturnia oral lyophilisate, Nordurine).

To assist those patients who cannot use the tablets (e.g. paediatric patients), reimbursement support for the EMP (unlicensed) nasal spray is approved on an individual patient basis for the period of the shortage.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Suzanne Doyle'.

Suzanne Doyle
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service